WAR CRIMES™

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CIVIL WAR™

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TIERI

JOHNSON

KIDS CAN BE MEAN.
TAKE THE CASE OF YOUNG WILSON FISK, FOR EXAMPLE.
HE WAS--BY HIS OWN ADMISSION, MIND YA--BELIEVE ME, I WOULDN'T BE SAYIN' THIS OTHERWISE--NOT WHAT YA WOULD CALL AN ATHLETIC CHILD.
CIVIL WAR: WAR CRIMES
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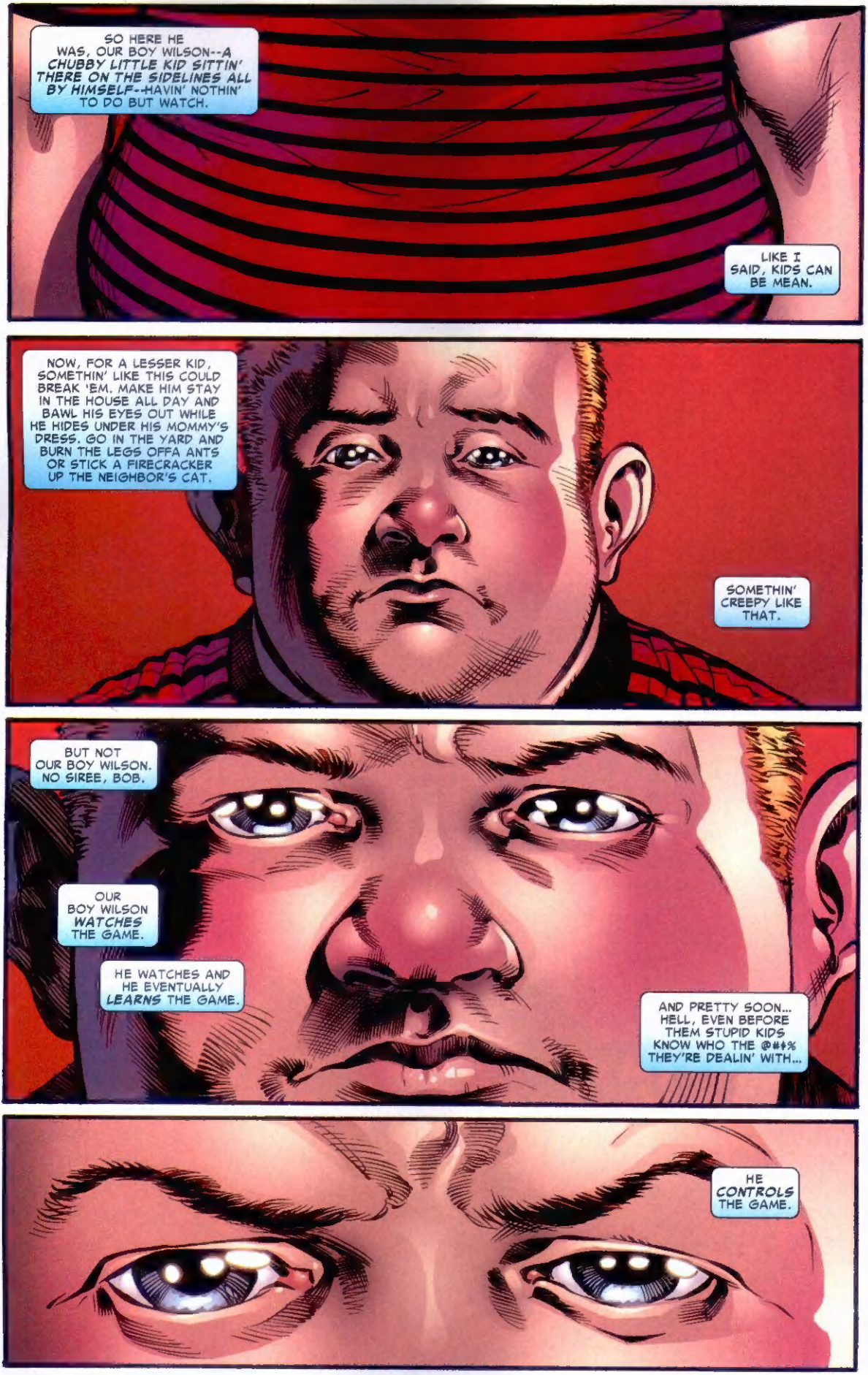
TO THE KIDS ON HIS BLOCK, THAT WAS ALL THE EXCUSE THEM LITTLE MOOKS NEEDED TO NOT LET OUR BOY WILSON PLAY IN THEIR REINDEER GAMES.


SO HERE HE WAS, OUR BOY WILSON--A CHUBBY LITTLE KID SITTIN' THERE ON THE SIDELINES ALL BY HIMSELF--HAVIN' NOTHIN' TO DO BUT WATCH.
LIKE I SAID, KIDS CAN BE MEAN.
NOW, FOR A LESSER KID, SOMETHIN' LIKE THIS COULD BREAK 'EM. MAKE HIM STAY IN THE HOUSE ALL DAY AND BAWL HIS EYES OUT WHILE HE HIDES UNDER HIS MOMMY'S DRESS. GO IN THE YARD AND BURN THE LEGS OFFA ANTS OR STICK A FIRECRACKER UP THE NEIGHBOR'S CAT.
SOMETHIN' CREEPY LIKE THAT.
BUT NOT OUR BOY WILSON. NO SIREE, BOB.
OUR BOY WILSON WATCHES THE GAME.
HE WATCHES AND HE EVENTUALLY LEARNS THE GAME.
AND PRETTY SOON... HELL, EVEN BEFORE THEM STUPID KIDS KNOW WHO THE @#$% THEY'RE DEALIN' WITH...
HE CONTROLS THE GAME.

SO NOW, HERE WE ARE. IT'S YEARS LATER AND THE GAMES HAVE CHANGED.
AND OUR BOY WILSON? WELL, HE'S STILL THERE SITTIN' ON THE SIDELINES, WATCHIN' ALL ALONE.
RIKER'S ISLAND MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON.
BUT ONLY BECAUSE THAT'S THE WAY HE LIKES IT.

CIVIL WAR: WAR CRIMES No. 1, February, 2007. Published as a One-Shot by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. © 2006 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. $3.99 per copy in the U.S. and $4.75 in Canada (GST #R127032852); in the direct market; Canadian Agreement #40668537. **Printed in the USA.** ALAN FINE, President & CEO Of Marvel Toys and Marvel Publishing, Inc.; DAVID BOGART, VP Of Publishing Operations; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIE, Managing Editor; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Joe Malmone, Advertising Director, at jmalmone@marvel.com or 212-576-8534. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158.

PLEASE! I DIDN'T KNOW! I SWEAR ON MY KIDS!
YOU AIN'T GOT ANY KIDS, CHARLIE.
AND AS FOR YOU NOT KNOWIN'? PLEASE. EVERYBODY AND THEIR MOTHER KNOWS SHOWER STALL #14 IS OFF-LIMITS.
RESERVED FOR THE BIG GUY AND THE BIG GUY ALONE.
NOW, EVEN HE MIGHT A' EXCUSED ONE LITTLE SLIPUP... BUT AFTER WHAT YA DID IN THERE BESIDES?
AHHHHH!
CRACK!
MY ARM...
YA WANT I SHOULD HURT HIM SOME MORE, MONTANA?
AIN'T NECESSARY, PARDNER. THE ARM'S ALL WE'RE GETTING PAID FER.
SPEAKIN' A' WHICH...
I WANNA KNOW WHEN WE'RE GETTIN' OUR--

WHERE THE HELL DO YA THINK YOU'RE GOING, FANCY DAN?
YOU KNOW THE RULES.
THE TABLE... SOMETIMES CALLED THE "KINGPIN'S SKY BOX". OTHER THAN THE OCCASIONAL GUARD, NO ONE APPROACHES IT.
NO ONE, EXCEPT ME.
HE'S SORRY, PARDNER. HE JUST PLUM FORGOT FOR A MINUTE, THAT'S ALL.
YEAH. I DIDN'T MEAN NO DISRESPECT, TURK. HONEST.
SORRY, MR. FISK!
SHADDUP, YOU.
THE GOODS YOU'VE BEEN PROMISED ARE ALREADY WAITIN' FOR YA IN YOUR CELL.
ONE CASE OF CHEWIN' TOBACCO...
...TWO CASES OF OREO DOUBLE STUFFS...
...AND ONE TRANSISTOR RADIO.
NOW REMEMBER, YOU MOOKS, I GOT DIBS ON THE RADIO. WHICH MEANS WE AIN'T GONNA BE HEARIN' NONE OF THAT COUNTRY WESTERN CRAP.
YEAH. NONE OF THAT COUNTRY WESTERN CRAP, MONTANA.
AND NO LIMBAUGH, NEITHER.
WHAT? AWWWW, COME ON, DAN.
SHADDUP, I SAID.
MR. BARRETT...

YOUR JOB IS A SIMPLE ONE. TO CONDUCT MY BUSINESS AND DETER UNWANTED INTERACTION. IF YOU ARE FINDING YOUR DUTIES TOO DIFFICULT, PERHAPS WE'LL FIND SOMEONE BETTER SUITED FOR THEM.
MY APOLOGIES, MR. FISK. IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.
PFFT...MY JOB'S A SIMPLE ONE, HE SAYS. THAT'S A LAUGH.
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHIN' LESS SIMPLE THAN ACTIN' AS THE KINGPIN'S "BUFFER".
BRIBIN' GUARDS. DEALIN' WITH CONS. HANDLIN' WHAT NEEDS TO BE HANDLED FOR FISK IN HERE.
BASICALLY PAINTIN' A NICE, FAT BULL'S-EYE ON MY HEAD WHILE THE KINGPIN KEEPS HIS HANDS CLEAN.
LIKE I SAID...PFFT. SIMPLE.
AW GEEZ, WHAT IS IT NOW?
NO APPROACHIN' THE TABLE. YOU KNOW THE--
SHUT THE #+%& UP.

I REMEMBER THERE WAS A TIME ALL SOMEBODY HAD TO DO WAS SAY THE WORD "DAREDEVIL" AND YOU'D HAVE YOURSELF A BOWEL MOVEMENT, TURK.
SO I'M SUPPOSED TO LISTEN TO YOU NOW?
THUD!
WHAT'S UP, WILLIE?
HAMMERHEAD.
OH MY GOD...
...I'M A DEAD MAN.
I UNDERSTAND WE'LL SOON BE DEPRIVED OF YOUR WONDERFUL COMPANY.
YEP. OUT ON THE GREATEST WORD IN THE APPEAL PROCESS...
TECHNICALITY.
BULLY FOR YOU. NOW, IF YOU'VE COME TO SAY YOUR GOODBYES, YOU'VE SAID THEM, SO IF YOU DON'T MIND...
SHAME.
EXCUSE ME?
WITH EVERYTHIN' GOIN' ON OUT THERE... HERO FIGHTIN' HERO AND ALL THAT.
FER GUYS LIKE YOU AND ME? WELL, I AIN'T GOTTA EXPLAIN TO YOU HOW THE RIGHT SORT'A GUY COULD THRIVE IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS. LIKE HITTIN' THE FREAKIN' LOTTO, FER CRISSAKES.
BUT AS THEY SAY: "YA GOTTA BE IN IT TO WIN IT."

AND WITH YOU STUCK IN HERE LIKE THIS?
LIKE I SAID... SHAME.
MOVE ALONG, HAMMERHEAD. YOU DON'T WANT ANY PROBLEMS YOUR LAST DAY HERE.
OH NO? HE SURE AS HELL GAVE ME ONE...
BE SEEIN' YA, WILLIE! I'LL SEND YA A POSTCARD FROM MY NEW THRONE.
HEH. HEH.
I'LL BE LUCKY TO MAKE IT THROUGH DESSERT...
I GOT A NOTE HERE FOR FISK.
UM...I DON'T THINK THIS IS REALLY THE BEST TIME... MAYBE LATER...?
IT'S A VISITOR. AND CONSIDERING WHO IT IS...
I THINK YOU'D BETTER GIVE IT TO HIM NOW.

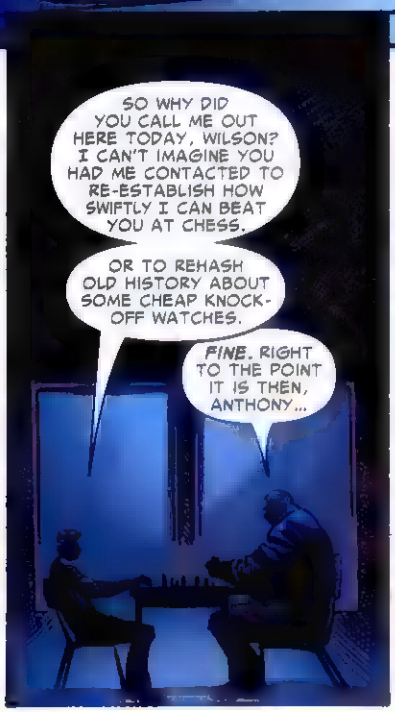
VISITING
ROOMS

THE OLD CHESS BOARD...

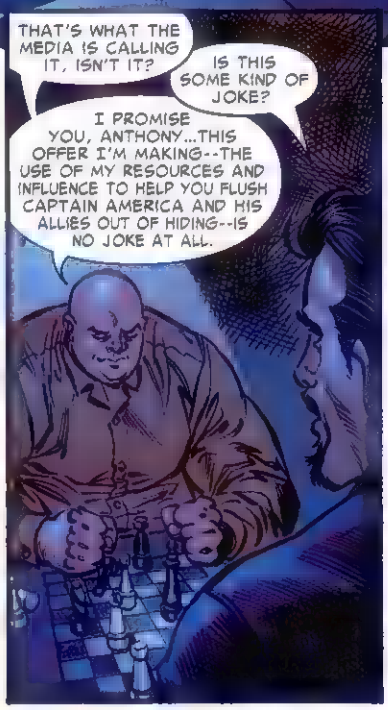
IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE SINCE I'VE SEEN IT, ANTHONY...

...OR DO YOU PREFER "IRON MAN" THESE DAYS?
TONY WILL DO FINE.
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN, ANTHONY? NOT SINCE THE OLD YACHT CLUB, AS I RECALL.
AND HERE IT COMES... GO AHEAD, FISK. MIGHT AS WELL GET THIS OUT OF THE WAY...
AH, DO YOU REMEMBER THE WATCHES? HOW I GAVE EACH CLUB MEMBER A ROLEX FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
ONLY TO HAVE MY WAREHOUSE RAIDED THE NEXT WEEK.
NOW, MY WAREHOUSES TEND TO GET RAIDED ALL THE TIME--DAREDEVIL, SPIDER-MAN, THE OCCASIONAL PUNISHER APPEARANCE--SO THIS WAS NOT NECESSARILY A SURPRISE.
THE NAMES OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO RAIDED SAID WAREHOUSE, HOWEVER? OH, THAT WAS A DIFFERENT MATTER ALTOGETHER...
HAWKEYE AND THE SCARLET WITCH.
WELL, THE GOLDEN AVENGER HIMSELF MAKING AN APPEARANCE WOULD HAVE BEEN A BIT MUCH, I THOUGHT.

CHECKMATE, BY THE WAY.
YOU WERE ALWAYS SUSCEPTIBLE TO MY KNIGHT FORK.
APPARENTLY SO.


SO WHY DID YOU CALL ME OUT HERE TODAY, WILSON? I CAN'T IMAGINE YOU HAD ME CONTACTED TO RE-ESTABLISH HOW SWIFTLY I CAN BEAT YOU AT CHESS.
OR TO REHASH OLD HISTORY ABOUT SOME CHEAP KNOCK-OFF WATCHES.
FINE. RIGHT TO THE POINT IT IS THEN, ANTHONY...

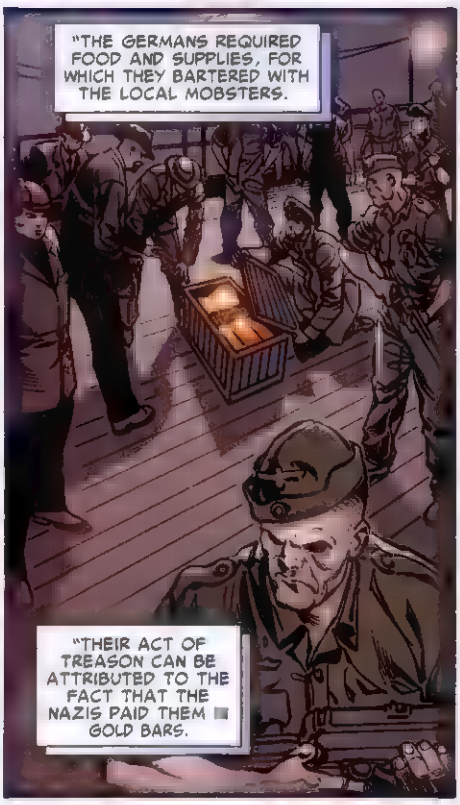
I WANT TO HELP YOU WIN THIS SO-CALLED CIVIL WAR.

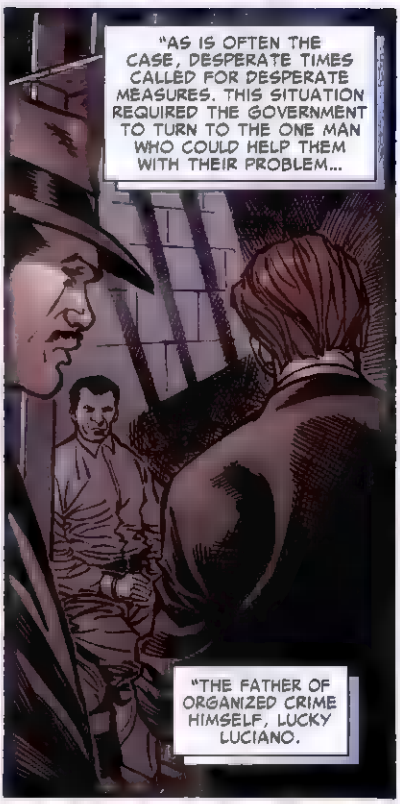

THAT'S WHAT THE MEDIA IS CALLING IT, ISN'T IT?
IS THIS SOME KIND OF JOKE?
I PROMISE YOU, ANTHONY...THIS OFFER I'M MAKING--THE USE OF MY RESOURCES AND INFLUENCE TO HELP YOU FLUSH CAPTAIN AMERICA AND HIS ALLIES OUT OF HIDING--IS NO JOKE AT ALL.

OK, FINE. I'LL PLAY ALONG. LET'S PUT YOUR MOTIVATIONS ASIDE FOR A SECOND.
THE GOVERNMENT WILL GRATEFULLY ACCEPT HELP FROM THE TOP CRIMELORD IN THE KNOWN WORLD BECAUSE...?
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE THEY HAVEN'T DONE IT BEFORE.

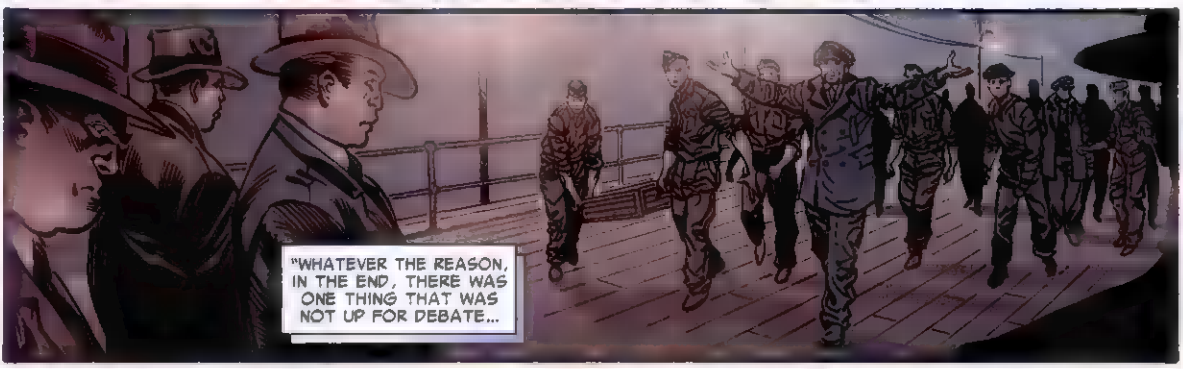
THAT MESSY BUSINESS WITH JOHN F. KENNEDY CERTAINLY COMES TO MIND. ALTHOUGH THE LESS SAID ABOUT THAT, THE BETTER, I SUPPOSE.
AND THEN OF COURSE, THERE'S ALWAYS THAT LITTLE AFFAIR WITH LUCKY LUCIANO AND THE NAZIS...

"HAVEN'T HEARD THE STORY? ALLOW ME TO FAMILIARIZE YOU WITH IT THEN...
"IT'S THE EARLY 1940s. NAZI U-BOATS HAVE SECRETLY DOCKED OFF THE PIERS ON LONG ISLAND.


"THE GERMANS REQUIRED FOOD AND SUPPLIES, FOR WHICH THEY BARTERED WITH THE LOCAL MOBSTERS.
"THEIR ACT OF TREASON CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE FACT THAT THE NAZIS PAID THEM [redacted] GOLD BARS.


"AS IS OFTEN THE CASE, DESPERATE TIMES CALLED FOR DESPERATE MEASURES. THIS SITUATION REQUIRED THE GOVERNMENT TO TURN TO THE ONE MAN WHO COULD HELP THEM WITH THEIR PROBLEM...
"THE FATHER OF ORGANIZED CRIME HIMSELF, LUCKY LUCIANO.

"WHY LUCIANO COOPERATED HAS [redacted] LONG DEBATED. SOME SAY IT WAS A MATTER OF *PATRIOTISM*. OTHERS ARE A BIT MORE *SKEPTICAL*.


"WHATEVER THE REASON, IN THE END, THERE WAS ONE THING THAT WAS NOT UP FOR DEBATE...

"NAZI U-BOATS OFF THE COAST OF OUR GREAT NATION [redacted] NOW STRICTLY *VERBOTEN*."

SO YOU'VE CAST YOURSELF AS LUCIANO, WITH ME FILLING ■ FOR THE GOVERNMENT.
ALTHOUGH ONE WOULD CERTAINLY NEVER CONFUSE CAPTAIN AMERICA WITH A NAZ!...
NO. CERTAINLY NOT.
BUT SINCE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT OF STORIES, NOW I'M REMINDED OF ONE. SOMETHING ABOUT A SCORPION AND A FOX AND GETTING STUNG AND DROWNING.
SO WITH THAT IN MIND, LET'S GET BACK TO THOSE MOTIVATIONS I TALKED ABOUT EARLIER, SHALL WE?
WHY WOULD YOU DO THIS? AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT DO YOU WANT IN EXCHANGE?
WELL...
FOR THE TIME BEING, LET'S JUST SAY I'LL HELP AS ■ MATTER OF PATRIOTISM.
HEH.
AND FOR THE TIME BEING LET'S JUST SAY I'M A BIT MORE SKEPTICAL.
WE BOTH KNOW YOU'LL REVEAL YOUR PRICE WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT.
SO ■ THE MEANTIME, HOW ABOUT YOU GIVE US A SHOW OF GOOD FAITH? DEMONSTRATE THAT YOU'RE ABLE TO DELIVER WHAT WE'LL WANT FROM YOU.

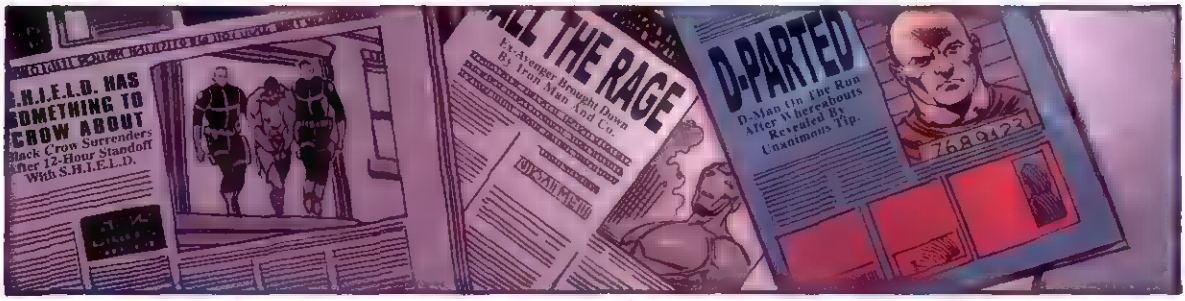
THEN I'LL CONSIDER YOUR OFFER.
FAIR ENOUGH.
BRNNNNG!
AND?
DID I CALL THIS ONE OR WHAT? HE WANTS TO "HELP".
OH, QUITE THE UPSTANDING CITIZEN THAT WILSON FISK IS, LET [redacted] TELL YOU.
LOOK, TONY, I KNOW YOU DON'T TRUST HIM--
NOT AS FAR AS I CAN THROW HIM, DIRECTOR HILL. AND WITH THAT, I ASSUME YOU'VE SEEN HIM.
YEAH, YEAH, I GET IT. AND MAYBE I'M AS TIRED OF MAKING "DEALS WITH THE DEVIL" AS YOU ARE. BUT THE BOTTOM LINE IS, IF WILSON FISK CAN HELP US END THIS WAR...
...IT WILL BE WELL WORTH IT.

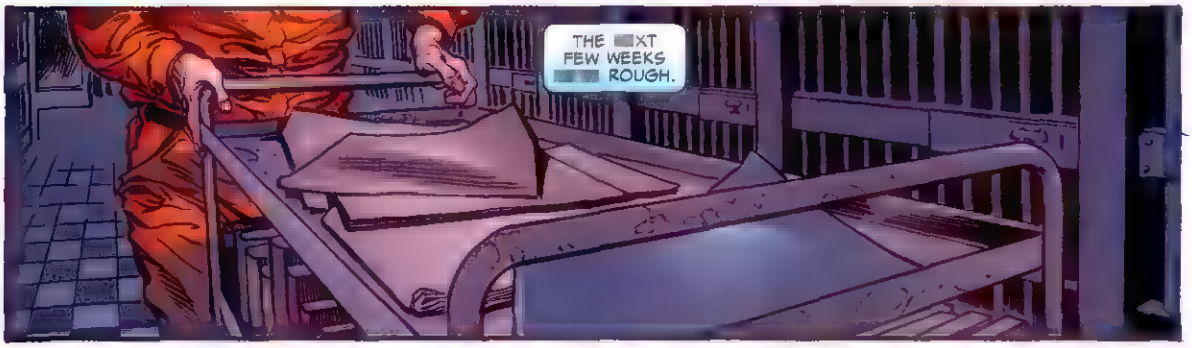
I DUNNO...
NITE SP
MIGHT AS WELL FACE FACTS, BOYS...WE BETTER BAND TOGETHER BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE. I MEAN, LOOK AT [redacted] WE'RE HEADIN': METRO CARDS, E-Z PASSES, PATRIOT ACTS.
AND NOW THIS REGISTRATION CRAP.
DON'T YA SEE WHERE THIS ALL WINDS UP?
BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING. I DON'T KNOW, SLYDE... MAYBE HE'S GOT A POINT.
DAMN STRAIGHT, I DO.
I THINK HE'S BLOWING THIS WHOLE THING OUT OF PROPORTION. PREYING ON PEOPLE'S FEARS.
ALL THIS MEANS IS WE'LL BE REGISTERED. THAT THEY'LL KNOW OUR SECRET I.D.'S.
AND HELL, ANY CROOK THAT'S SPENT A MINUTE IN COUNTY HAS GIVEN UP THAT PRIVILEGE ALREADY.
ARE YOU REALLY THAT STUPID?
THAT'S WHAT THEY TELL YA TO GET YA IN THE DOOR. THAT'S FOR THE HEROES.
FOR US? FIRST YOU'RE REGISTERIN' AS A SUPERHUMAN. NEXT, THEY'LL WANT YA TO REGISTER MORE SPECIFICALLY, AS A SUPERHUMAN CRIMINAL.
WHEN THAT HAPPENS, YOU'LL BE A WALKIN' W.M.D., MY FRIEND. PHONE TAPS FER NO CAUSE, SURVEILLANCE WHENEVER THEY WANT IT...

BEFORE YA KNOW IT, THEY'LL HAVE A CHIP IN YER HEAD ALL IN THE NAME OF PUBLIC SAFETY.
WELL, I'M SOLD.
AND I MOST DEFINITELY AM NOT.
SO LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT...PRO-REG HAS GOT IRON MAN. ANTI-REG HAS CAP.
AND US CROOKS GOT... HAMMERHEAD?!
HEY, LISTEN YOU...
NO, YOU LISTEN! THE KINGPIN, I COULD FOLLOW...
HIM I COULD SEE ORGANIZING ALL OF US TO TAKE THE TWO HERO CAMPS DOWN.
BUT YOU? COME ON.
AND SPEAKING OF THE KINGPIN--DOES HE KNOW ABOUT ANY OF THIS? YOU ENCROACHING INTO HIS TERRITORIES, ATTEMPTING TO ORGANIZE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO WORK FOR HIM...
NOPE...
BLAM!

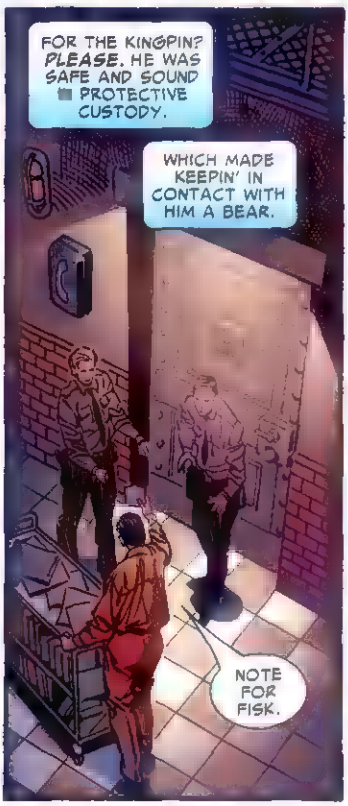
AND HE AIN'T GONNA.
GEEZ...I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT. ALL THAT BLOOD AND PIECES OF BRAIN ON YER PRETTY LI'L COSTUME...
HOLY #!%&...
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE UNDERWORLD, THE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK.
WELL, ACTUALLY AN OLD KID WHO JUST GOT OUT OF STIR AND RE-ENTERED A VERY NEW GAME, IF WE'RE GETTIN' TECHNICAL...
P-PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
YEAH. WHATEVER.
HE'S GONNA BE HELPIN' ME GET THIS SYNDICATE OFF THE GROUND. SMOOTHIN' OUT SOME OF THE ROUGH AREAS.
LIKE THIS, FER INSTANCE...

HEY, LOOK--I'M WITH YOU. AND I BET THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF OTHERS.
THERE'S NO REASON WE CAN'T GET ORGANIZED LIKE THE BOY SCOUTS HAVE.
GLAD YA SEE IT MY WAY, TRAPSTER.
WE'LL BE IN TOUCH.
THINGS ARE ONLY GONNA GET ROUGHER, BOSS.
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE.
VITO, PETEY... YOU GUYS WANNA COME IN HERE FER A SEC?
HELL'S KITCHEN. DUMP SLYDE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET, FER EVERYONE TO SEE. I WANNA LEAVE A MESSAGE FER A CERTAIN SOMEONE.
A CERTAIN VERY FAT SOMEONE.
HA! HA! HA!
I TELL YA, I DON'T LIKE THAT UNDERWORLD GUY.
I MEAN, NOT FOR NOTHIN' EITHER, I THOUGHT HIM AND THE BOSS HAD BAD BLOOD FROM WAY BACK WHEN DIO USED TO RUN WITH SILVERMANE.
BOSS'S GOT BAD BLOOD WITH AT LEAST HALF THE GUYS HE'S BEEN RECRUITIN'.
DON'T MATTER. YOU KNOW HOW IT GOES...WASN'T PERSONAL, JUST BUSINESS.
AND RIGHT NOW? BUSINESS IS ABOUT TO GET PRETTY DAMNED UGLY.


.H.I.E.L.D. HAS SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT
Black Crow Surrenders After 12-Hour Standoff With S.H.I.E.L.D.
ALL THE RAGE
Ex-Avenger Brought Down By Iron Man And Co.
D-PARTED
D-Man On The Run After Whereabouts Revealed By Unanimous Tip.


THE [redacted]XT FEW WEEKS [redacted] ROUGH.

FOR ME, ANYWAY.


FOR THE KINGPIN? *PLEASE.* HE WAS SAFE AND SOUND [redacted] PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.
WHICH MADE KEEPIN' IN CONTACT WITH HIM A BEAR.
NOTE FOR FISK.

NOT THAT FISK GAVE A DAMN OF COURSE. HIS INFO STARTED TO BEAR FRUIT FOR STARK, GETTIN' THEIR "PROJECT" OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT.
PROBLEM WAS, AS MUCH AS WE TRIED KEEPING FISK CUTTIN' DEALS WITH IRON MAN OUR LITTLE SECRET, PRISON CAN BE A *SMALL* PLACE...

AND THESE THINGS TEND TO GET OUT.
HOW DO, TURK, OL' PAL?
H-HEY, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU FELLAS?

SLAM!
UHH!
ICK!
SO THE FAT MAN'S THROWN DOWN WITH THE SUPER-FEDS, HUH? TURNED RAT?
FOLKS IN HERE DON'T LIKE THAT. [redacted] DON'T LIKE THAT. WHAT'S MORE...
...HAMMERHEAD NOW PAYS US NOT TO LIKE THAT.
AS SOON AS WE SEE FISK OUTSIDE OF HIS NICE, CUSHY PROTECTIVE CELL, THE KING'S GETTIN' PINNED.
AND ONCE THAT HAPPENS, AIN'T NOBODY GONNA BE AROUND TO PROTECT YER SORRY HIDE.
GET ME?
NOW, Y'ALL BE A GOOD BOY AND PASS THAT ALONG FOR US--WILL YA, PARDNER?
YEAH, PASS THAT ALONG.
SHADDAP.

SHOWER UNIT C
TURNS OUT, THE ENFORCERS'D GET THEIR CHANCE AT FISK SOONER THAN THEY THOUGHT...
13
14
15
16
SHOWER UNIT C
BAM!
CRACK!
SMASH!
GUARD, I BELIEVE I'LL BE CUTTING MY SHOWER SHORT TODAY.
SOMEBODY LEFT QUITE THE MESS IN THERE. CLEAN IT UP, WOULD YOU?

ONE WEEK LATER...
I'M HEARING YOU MAY BE IN DANGER BECAUSE OF THIS.
I'M TOUCHED BY YOUR CONCERN, ANTHONY...
...BUT I ASSURE YOU, IT IS UNWARRANTED.
IF YOU SAY SO. I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN GOOD ENOUGH SHAPE TO KEEP GIVING US MORSELS AS TASTY AS THE LAST BATCH OF INTEL.
STILL, THOSE WERE ONLY APPETIZERS.
I'M LOOKING TO PUT SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE SUBSTANTIAL ON MY PLATE THIS TIME.
WHICH I ANTICIPATED.
THE ALIASES CAPTAIN AMERICA AND HIS PEOPLE ARE HIDING UNDER.
MY GUESS IS MOST OF THE SMART ONES WILL HAVE STOPPED USING THOSE NAMES BY NOW.
BUT I THINK YOU MAY BE ABLE TO CATCH A STRAGGLER OR TWO.
NOT BAD.
THIS WILL GO A LONG WAY WITH US. WHICH REMINDS ME...HAVE YOU PICKED OUT YOUR POT AT THE END OF THIS RAINBOW YET, LUCIANO?
LOOK INTO THE STORY I TOLD YOU, ANTHONY.
THERE'S WHERE YOU'LL FIND WHAT I WANT.
WILL DO. OH, AND...
CHECKMATE.

FOR A CON, VISITIN' DAY IS LIKE CHRISTMAS. YA LOOK FORWARD TO IT ALL WEEK, AND WHEN IT'S GONE, YA START WISHING THE NEXT [redacted] WAS THERE ALREADY.
MOST OF THE TIME, ANYWAY...
GO AHEAD.
TURK...
OH MY GOD.
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
I SLIPPED IN THE SHOWER.
STOP JOKING. THIS ISN'T FUNNY. WE CAN'T GO ON LIVING LIKE THIS.
THE GIRLS ARE OLD ENOUGH TO READ THE PAPERS NOW. AND RICO...
THE BOYS HE'S HANGING OUT WITH! HE WANTS TO BE YOU. HE WANTS TO--
LOOK AT ME. WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.
DID YOU FIND THOSE PEOPLE I TOLD YOU TO SEE?
MAN-MOUNTAIN MARKO CAME TO THE HOUSE--

[redacted] CAME TO THE HOUSE!? I DON'T WANT THAT NUTJOB IN MY HOUSE!
WHAT COULD I DO, TURK? THROW HIM OUT?
DID YA PASS ON THE MESSAGE I GAVE YA AT LEAST?
YEAH.
AND I SAW THAT SCHIZO MARY PERSON.
I HATE DEALING WITH HER--SHE SAYS SUCH NASTY THINGS...
PLEASE...I DON'T EVEN WANT TO HEAR IT.
MARKO SAID FOR YOU TO PASS ALONG THAT HAMMERHEAD HAS GOT A LOT OF GUYS. THEY'RE HAVING A BIG MEETING THAT'S--
FISK ALREADY KNOWS. MAN GETS BETTER NEWS UPDATES THAN CNN.
LOOK, HONEY. I KNOW I'VE SAID THIS BEFORE. BUT ALL THIS? IT'S FOR YOU AND THE KIDS AND THE NEW BABY.
I'LL BE OUT BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.
AND THIS'LL ALL [redacted] OVER SOON ENOUGH.
BUT THERE'S ONE MORE THING I [redacted] YOU TO DO FOR ME. YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GET THIS NOTE TO SOMEONE.
WHO?
COME CLOSER.
OH MY GOD...

DAILY BUGLE
CLOAK AND SNAG-HER!
IRON MAN AND CO. NAB TWO RENEGADE HEROES!
WE GOT CLOAK AND DAGGER.
NOT TOO SHABBY. NOT CAPTAIN AMERICA, MIND YOU...
...BUT NOT D-MAN, EITHER.
AND HERE'S WHAT ELSE I GOT... I FINALLY LOOKED UP THE LUCIANO STORY...
I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT, WILSON.
YOU WANT OUT.
I'M HERE TO TELL YOU THAT'S AN IMPOSSIBILITY. A MORE LENIENT FACILITY? SURE.
A REDUCED SENTENCE? WE THOUGHT IT WAS THAT. THAT [redacted] COULD'VE WORKED WITH.
BUT YOU GETTING OUT ALTOGETHER? NOT ABOUT TO HAPPEN.
LET ME SPEAK TO THE WOMAN YOU SPEAK TO ON THE PHONE.

SURE. KNOCK YOURSELF OUT.
I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION THE LOCATION OF CAPTAIN AMERICA'S HEADQUARTERS.
IT IS ONE OF FORMER S.H.I.E.L.D. DIRECTOR NICK FURY'S OLD SAFEHOUSES, ONE THAT IS *UNKNOWN* TO YOU *OR* YOUR PEOPLE.
BUT *I* HAVE IT. AND I CAN GIVE IT TO YOU IMMEDIATELY.
YOU CAN END THIS WAR *TONIGHT*.
PASS THE PHONE TO MR. STARK.
START THIS MAN'S RELEASE PROCEEDINGS.
THEN MOVE ON HIS INFORMATION.

STRIKE TEAM ONE, WHAT HAVE WE GOT?
SAFEHOUSE IS SHIELDED FROM SCANS. CAN'T GET AN EXACT READ ON WHO'S IN THERE...
BUT SOMEONE DEFINITELY IS.
A LARGE GROUP OF SOMEONES.
WE'RE GOING IN.

I KNOW A LOT OF YOUSE GOT CONCERNS ABOUT ORGANIZIN' LIKE THIS.
NOT SO MUCH ABOUT GOING AGAINST THE HEROES...
...BUT ABOUT THE KINGPIN.
WELL, LET ME TELL ALL YOUSE THIS:
#!%$ THE KINGPIN.
KINGPIN DON'T REPRESENT US. HE GOT SUPER POWERS? SUPER APPETITE, MAYBE.
WEAR A COSTUME? NOT UNLESS YA COUNT THEM FAT ALBERT XXXL SUITS HE WEARS.
THIS REGISTRATION THING DON'T AFFECT HIM ONE BIT. HELL, HE'LL PROBABLY [redacted] IT AS AN OPPORTUNITY SOMEHOW.
AND WHO'LL END UP GETTIN' SCREWED? GUYS LIKE US. GUYS THIS ALL AFFECTS, THAT'S WHO.
BESIDES... WHAT'RE YA WORRYIN' ABOUT THAT TUB'A LARD FER?
HE'S IN JAIL.
HIDIN' IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY LIKE A SCARED LITTLE GIRL.
HOW THE HELL'S HE GONNA DO ANYTHING TO US?

WHAT THE--?!
WHAT THE--?!

ZAP
ZAP
CHOOM!
FREAKIN' IRON MAN?! HOW THE #!%? DID THIS HAPPEN?
BLAM! BLAM!

DAILY BUGLE
WAR TURNS UGLY
PRO-REG FORCES STING VILLAIN HIDEOUT RESULTING IN ARRESTS, INJURIES, AND DEATH.
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
MY NAME IS TURK BARRETT. I'M--
A BUFFER? HE SENT ME A BUFFER TO TALK TO?
GUARD, GO TELL THAT FAT SLOB TO GET IN HERE OR--
I'M SORRY, [redacted], BUT A PRISONER CAN'T BE FORCED TO [redacted] SOMEONE HE DOESN'T WANT TO.
OK. FINE. THEN I HAVE ONE QUESTION BEFORE I GO.
WHY?

I HAD THE RELEASE PAPERS IN MY HAND. THAT WAS IT--HE WAS OUT.
HE GOT WHAT HE WANTED.
WHY THROW IT ALL AWAY?
HE SAID THIS WOULD EXPLAIN IT.
HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT THIS WAS ONE GAME OF CHESS HE FINALLY BEAT YOU AT.
COME NOW, MR. BARRETT, EVEN YOU MUST REALIZE BY NOW...

"...FISK WASN'T THE ONE I WAS PLAYING AGAINST."
MAN, I DON'T KNOW. I HAVE TO ADMIT, I'M JUST NOT COMFORTABLE WITH IT.
I MEAN, YEAH, HAMMERHEAD'S VILLAIN ARMY COULD HAVE BEEN TROUBLE AND THEY GOT TAKEN OUT...AND ONCE IRON MAN WAS IN BED WITH FISK, CAP SORT OF HAD NO OTHER CHOICE...
BUT STILL...
NOBLE PERSEUS CONSULTED THE MAN-EATING GRAEAE WITCHES IN ORDER TO DEFEAT MEDUSA. VALIANT ACHILLES FOUGHT ALONGSIDE THE HATED AGAMEMNON DURING THE TROJAN WAR. EVEN MY FATHER ZEUS ALLIED HIMSELF WITH GIANTS AND CYCLOPES WHEN HE BATTLED THE TITANS.
'TIS WAR, FRIEND SAMUEL. AND AT THE END OF THE DAY, THY CAPTAIN ■ BUT A SOLDIER.
AS SUCH, HE DOTH RECOGNIZE THAT SOMETIMES IN WAR, HARD DECISIONS MUST BE MADE TO ACHIEVE THY GOAL. AND SHOULD THAT COST THEE A PIECE OF THY SOUL?
Pleasure doing business with you—
W. F.
SO BE IT.

RIKER'S ISLAND
PRISON INFIRMARY,
NIGHT.
FIGURED IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE YOU SHOWED UP.
AS SOON AS THEY PULLED THE BULLETS OUTTA ME, I KNEW WHO DONE IT.
ADAMANTIUM.
CHEAP PUNKS IN THE GOVERNMENT DON'T USE THEM KINDA BULLETS.

ONLY ONE GUY I KNOW DOES.

GEE, AND HERE I THOUGHT THE FACT THAT I'M THE ONE WHO PICKED OUT THE SPOT FOR THE MEETING WOULDA BEEN A DEAD GIVEAWAY.
YOU WERE WITH FISK FROM DAY ONE?
YEP.

OK, WE BOTH KNOW WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN HERE. BUT I GOTTA ASK YA ONE LAST QUESTION...
WHY?
WHY'D YA SELL ME OUT?

PAL, LET ME CLUE YOU IN ON A LITTLE SECRET YA SHOULDA FIGURED OUT A LONG TIME AGO. A LOT OF THINGS HAVE CHANGED THE LAST TEN YEARS I BEEN AWAY.
TECHNOLOGY, PRICE A' GAS... GEORGE W. INSTEAD OF JUST PLAIN GEORGE...
ONLY, ONE THING STAYED THE SAME. KNOW WHAT THAT WAS?

THE KINGPIN.
YOU SECOND-TIER GUYS COME AND GO--BUT *HIM?* HE WAS ON TOP WHEN I WENT IN AND HE WAS ON TOP WHEN I GOT OUT.
I FIGURED I MIGHT AS WELL GET IN ON HIS NEXT COMEBACK ON THE GROUND FLOOR. BESIDES...

...YA THINK I FORGOT ABOUT THAT BAD BUSINESS BETWEEN US YEARS AGO...? REMEMBER JOEY D? HE WAS MY BEST FRIEND, YA PIECE A' CRAP, AND YA PUT A SCREWDRIVER IN HIS EYE BECAUSE HE OWED YA A LOUSY TWO GRAND.
PEOPLE TALK ABOUT THINGS BEING BUSINESS, NOT PERSONAL? *PLEASE.*

IT'S ALWAYS PERSONAL, YA MOOK.
AND THIS WAS NO DIFFERENT.
BLAM!

IT'S DAYS LATER, AND EVERYTHING'S BACK TO NORMAL.
FISK IS BACK WITH THE REST OF US, BACK TO SURVEYIN' US ALL LIKE AN EMPEROR WATCHIN' GLADIATORS IN ANCIENT ROME FIGHTIN' FOR HIS AMUSEMENT.
AS IF HAMMERHEAD WASN'T ENOUGH, THE WAY HE SUCKERED IRON MAN TO DO HIS DIRTY WORK FOR HIM HAS ALREADY BECOME LEGEND AMONGST THE BOYS.
HE'S ONE OF OURS GIVIN' IT TO ONE OF THEM.
AND WATCH OR NO WATCH, THAT'S THE REAL REASON HE SOLD OUT HIS DEAL. HE'S BEEN FIGHTIN' THESE GUYS FOR SO LONG, HE DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHIN' ELSE
SURE, MAYBE HE WAS ONLY ABLE TO PULL IT ALL OFF 'CAUSE STARK NEVER DREAMED CAPTAIN FREAKIN' AMERICA WOULD GET DOWN IN THE TRENCHES WITH THE LIKES OF FISK.
SORRY ABOUT THAT MISUNDERSTANDIN' THE OTHER DAY, MR. FISK! NICE TO BE WORKIN' WITH YA AGAIN!
WILL YOU JUST SHADDUP ALREADY?
BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT. THIS IS WHAT HE DOES.
IT'S WHAT HE LEARNED ALL THOSE YEARS AGO, WATCHING THOSE STUPID KIDS.
WATCH THE GAME.
LEARN THE GAME.
CONTROL THE GAME.
AND NOBODY DOES THAT BETTER THAN THE KINGPIN.
END.

MARVEL HEROES HOTSPOT

"Quicker than quick! Stronger than strong!"

HOTSPOT HOT BOOK... NEW AVENGERS: ILLUMINATI #1!

Okay, so in a month chock full of CIVIL WAR happenings that are rocking your favorite heroes (and villains), how does NEW AVENGERS: ILLUMINATI #1 sneak into the "Hot Book" spotlight? Because they're controlling everything, people! For years, six men have worked together in secret to mold the status of Earth itself. Sorcerer Supreme Doctor Strange! King of the Inhumans, Black Bolt! Professor X! Namor, the Sub-Mariner! Mister Fantastic! The invincible Iron Man! How have their actions impacted upon the stories you only think you know? You'll find out here, thanks to the titanic team of writers Brian Michael Bendis and Brian Reed and penciler Jim Cheung! Don't live in ignorance, friends--learn how the Illuminati are shaping your universe!

HOTSPOT LETTER O' THE MONTH!

What keeps all your favorite writers, artists, and Marvel's crew of editors and production whizzes working? Not mere food and water! Nay, our souls hunger for the true life source: reader letters! So send in your thoughts, friends! Tell us what's on your mind, what you want to see, or how we can keep the Marvel magic alive! Just like Guido Cuadros did, all the way from Brazil! Take it away, Guido!

Dear Tom Brevoort:

Marvel is my favorite comics company by far. I celebrate that, along with the numerous titles that already own their own letters pages, you guys have decided to create this "Marvel Heroes Hotspot" section.

Places like this one, where fans can participate with questions and commentaries, and where editors not only attend to our inquiries, but surprise us with anecdotes, experiences and news are very much needed. You really make us fans feel like we're valued members of the Marvel family, giving us "all access" information and asking always for our opinion and impressions. It's nice to know that our voices will be heard and taken into account.

I don't believe that "leaving it all to the internet" is the best solution or the next obligatory step towards the evolution of interactive relationships for readers, creators and editors. I know there are a lot of blogs, forums and message boards out there in cyberspace, excellent sites some of them, but those will never compare with the magic that printed letters pages have. To be part of the comic itself is what makes them special.

I'm really grateful to Marvel for giving me a space in their comics to express myself and to share my opinions with the rest of the readers (thousands of them, you know?), while something written on the internet can very easily go unnoticed, be ignored or only read by a few.

One of my dreams is to work someday in the House of Ideas, as an assistant editor, in charge of some letter columns, maybe even as a comic writer, or as a cleaner guy, I don't care, it would be an honor. And when I start thinking that it's a dream too difficult to achieve, I remember that a lot of guys working there started their careers as simple fans who used to write letters to Marvel, just like me, just like you once did, Mr. Tom Brevoort, or should I say "Tommy B."?

Guido Cuadros F.A.
Lima, Perú.

Thanks for writing in, Guido! Yes, many of us here in the Hallowed Halls started out as readers, and, like you, even had letters printed in the pages of a Marvel comic. But after years of effort--not to mention a huge helping of luck--we now call the House of Ideas home! So keep chasing your dreams! And keep the letters coming to mheroes@marvel.com!

HERO HALL O' FAME: THE RALPH MACCHIO BOOK!

When it came time to show editor Ralph Macchio how much we appreciated his thirty years at the House of Ideas, we had to do it in the Mighty Marvel Manner! Thus was born THE RALPH MACCHIO BOOK, a priceless hardcover filled with the autographs and illustrations by some of the industry's top talents! Mary Jane & Spidey by John Romita Sr.! The Hulk by Sal Buscema! Wolverine by Andy Kubert! And to top it all off, an intro by Stan "The Man" Lee! Yes, friends, all you have to do is get hired by Marvel, help put out some of the greatest comics ever published, survive various regime changes and downsizings for three decades, and you too can be the proud owner of a one-of-a-kind keepsake. So thanks for all the years of carrying the True Believer's Torch of Truth, Ralph....now where's that next issue of THE ULTIMATES?!

AUBREY'S OUT-OF-CONTEXT FUNNIES

This month's doozy comes from DAREDEVIL #122, JUNE 1975

ON SALE DECEMBER 2006

AMAZING SPIDER-GIRL #3: Brrrr! It's Spider-Girl vs. Bitter Frost!

ANNIHILATION #5: With the war lost, Ronan and Super-Skrull unite to free the Kree!

AVENGERS NEXT #3 & #4: Will the Avengers' mysterious foe drain the heroes of their powers?

AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #3 & #4: It's the Avengers vs. an army of Super-Adaptoids!

BEYOND #6: Will anyone make it off Battleworld alive?

BLADE #4: Blade battles a demon-possessed mall Santa! Ho Ho DEATH!

CIVIL WAR #6: Cap's forces prepare to take down Iron Man's side once and for all.

CIVIL WAR: FRONTLINE #9: Speedball comes face-to-face with his accuser!

CIVIL WAR: WAR CRIMES #1: The Kingpin picks a side in the Civil War, but what does he really want?

DAREDEVIL #92: Who's been pulling Daredevil's strings for the past year? The mystery is revealed!

DOCTOR STRANGE: THE OATH #3: Doctor Strange learns the identity of the villain who holds Wong's life in his hands!

FANTASTIC FOUR: THE END #3: Deep beneath the ocean, Sue makes a discovery that could change the future of her family!

IMMORTAL IRON FIST #2: What has Iron Fist done to awaken the wrath of Hydra?

IRON MAN #14: A CIVIL WAR tie-in. What price must Tony Stark pay for his pro-registration stance?

IRON MAN/CAPTAIN AMERICA: CASUALTIES OF WAR #1: A CIVIL WAR tie-in. Can these former allies make amends?

IRREDEEMABLE ANT-MAN #3: Find out why everyone loves to hate the all-new ANT-MAN in his least redeemable tale yet!

MS. MARVEL #10 A CIVIL WAR tie-in. Ms. Marvel and Wonder Man must bring in one of their own!

NEW AVENGERS #26: Hawkeye's back, and he's targeting the Scarlet Witch!

NEW AVENGERS: ILLUMINATI #1: Learn how six heroes secretly shaped the Marvel Universe!

SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #33: How has Spidey's unmasking affected his beloved Aunt May?

SHE-HULK #14: Everything you ever wanted to know about Awesome Andy!

THUNDERBOLTS #109: The return of Moonstone!

UNION JACK #4: The final battle between Union Jack and RAID, right in the heart of London!

WINTER SOLDIER: WINTER KILLS #1: CASUALTIES OF WAR. Bucky looks for redemption on his first Christmas in the 21st century.

~~FIVE~~ SIX FUN FACTOIDS FROM STEPHEN WACKER

(EDITOR OF SILENT WAR AND FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN)

1) Warren Simons uses "dude" and "bro" like he's being paid by "Dude and Bro, Inc.". Enough already.
2) Aubrey Sitterson has luxurious, movie-star style hair.
3) Molly Lazer sings and dances...but not in the office. In Connecticut.
4) Bill Rosemann never spoke to Steve when they worked at DC. Same here at Marvel.
5) Alejandro Arbona is as tall as Aubrey's hair is beautiful.
6) Tom Brevoort actually has all the completed issues of CIVIL WAR in his desk but chooses to ship them late.

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MARK E-MAIL "OKAY TO PRINT"

BOSK